

## Appendix 5 Further Works

### 1.0 Additional Archaeological Evaluations

#### 1.1 Introduction

A second phase of evaluation trenching was carried out at Burrough House at the request of Nick Loosemore of Loosemore Builders (the Client) in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Boyd 2016) drawn up in consultation with Stephen Reed of the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET). The additional trenching was undertaken in order to understand the form, function and dating of the extant earthen bank and was carried out by P. Webb on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2016. The results of this trenching supplement form an additional appendix to the report for the initial trenching (Bampton and Webb 2015).

Two trenches totalling 28m in length were excavated under archaeological supervision by machine with flat bladed grading bucket, located across the bank to either side of Trench 3 from the first phase of excavations (Figure 1). The stratigraphy between the trenches comprised: topsoil c.0.36m in depth overlying subsoil c.0.10-0.13m deep and natural shillet and clays. To the south of the bank a second, upper, layer of subsoil c.0.36m deep had built up over the bank. Despite their close proximity, the natural varied between the trenches, from bluish-grey shillet rock and clay to the east and reddish clay and shillet to the west.

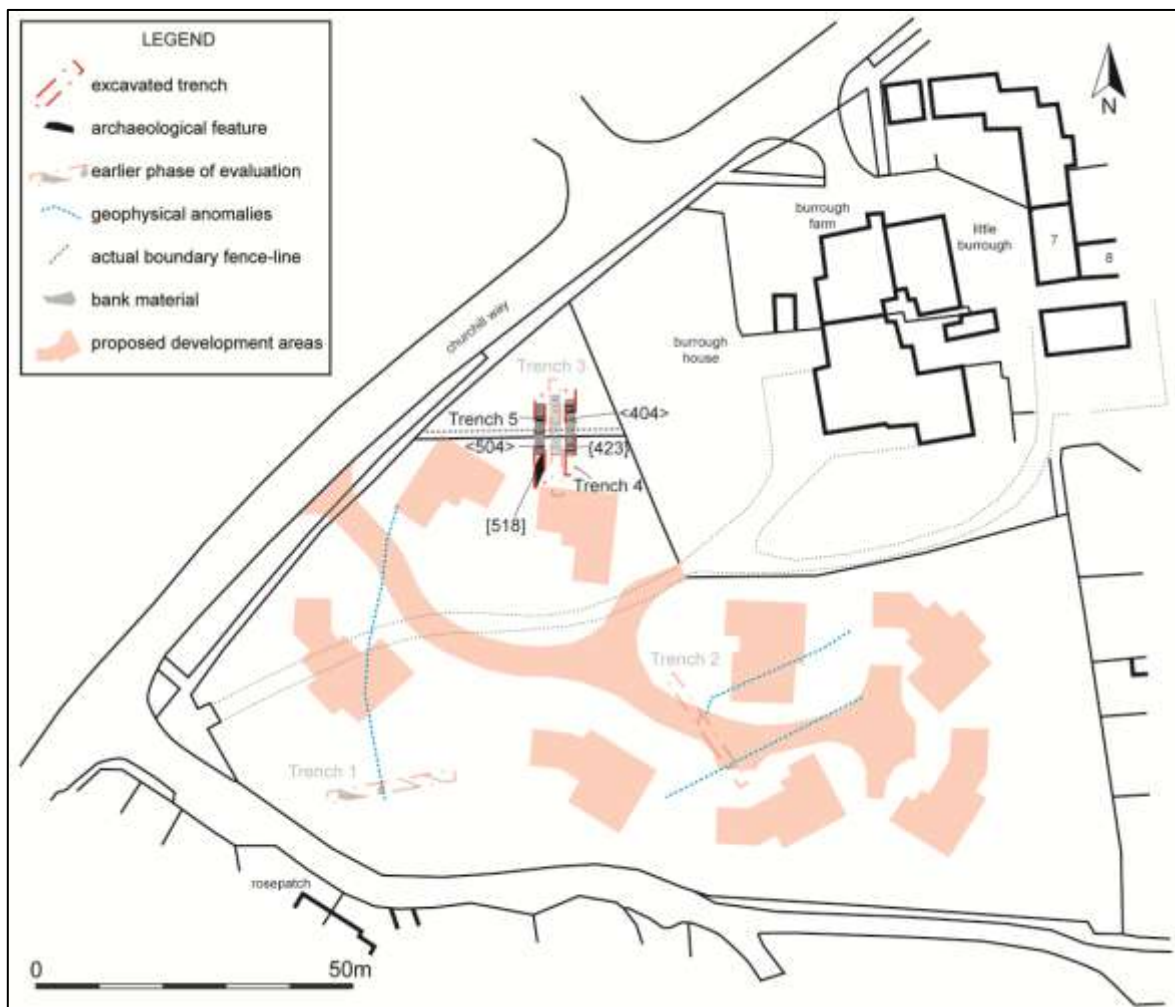


Figure 1: Trench locations and archaeological features in relation to prominent geophysical anomalies and proposed development areas.

## 1.2 Results

The evaluation trenching revealed three linear features: the extant probable medieval bank; an earlier stone built wall; and a linear ditch of likely medieval origin. The build of the bank suggests that it may have been constructed in two phases: an initial phase built up against an already existing well-built stone wall; with a second phase added when the wall appears to have been robbed-out. A complete detailed context list, finds list and supporting photographs can be seen at the end of this appendix.

### 1.2.1 Trench 4

Trench 4 was aligned north by south and measured 13.60m×1.60m; positioned to investigate an extant bank aligned east-west in the northern part of the site, west of Burrough House (Figure 1). The stratigraphy comprised: topsoil (400), grey-brown silt c.0.12m deep. This overlay subsoil (402), brown friable silt 0.13m thick; and the natural (403), blue-grey shillet. On the top of the bank the topsoil had been partially removed, though a layer of modern topsoil dump material (401), grey-brown clay-silt-loam c.0.34m thick had built up against the northern face of the bank. Two features were identified in the trench, bank <404> and stone wall {424}.

Wall {424}, the earliest feature in the trench, located towards the south end of the trench, was orientated east to west and measured 0.60m wide, surviving to 0.40m high (Figure 2,3). It filled a construction cut, [423], which was contiguous with Ditch Cut [432] that ran along the south side of the wall. The wall was constructed from well faced large angular stone with a brown silt-clay bond, and was situated within cut [423], 0.50m wide × 0.28m deep with moderate sloping sides and flat base. The upper portion of the wall was subsequently removed by robber cut [431], orientated approximately east to west and measuring 0.45m wide × 0.50m deep with moderate to steep sloping sides and flat base; filled by, (410), (416), (417) and (420), brown soft-friable silt-clays with angular stone inclusions c.0.50m thick. This robber cut was back-filled during a probable levelling event of a bank that had been on the north side of the wall.

Bank <404>, orientated east to west across the northern end of the site measured c.9.5m wide × up to 1.60m high with moderate to steep sloping sides and a convex top (Figure 2,4). It appears to have been constructed in two phases, the earliest incorporating wall {424}. The north face of the bank was defined by construction cut/ditch [405] with a stone rubble build {406} against which the bank material abutted. The south face was defined by cut [432] measuring 1m wide x 0.26m deep with moderate sloping sides and slightly concave base, which had been cut up to wall {424}, against which the lower bank material abutted. The construction of the bank comprised make-up layers; (412), (413), (414), (415), (418), (419), (420), (422); brown clay-silts up to 1m high. A possible second phase of construction may have coincided with the partial removal of wall {424} (see above), with build layers; (408), (409), (411), red-brown compacted silt-clays with frequent shillet inclusions overlying the earlier phase of construction; and possibly the back fills of Robber Cut [431]. A later, third phase of activity represented by layers (407), (428), (429) appears to indicate a silting-up or back-filling of the ditch [405] and partial levelling and collapse of the bank, reducing the slope of the north face, and may be the result of 19<sup>th</sup> century landscaping activity associated with the re-building of Burrough House. The modern topsoil dump, (401) further defined this extant slope/bank.

Land at Burrough House, Northam, Devon

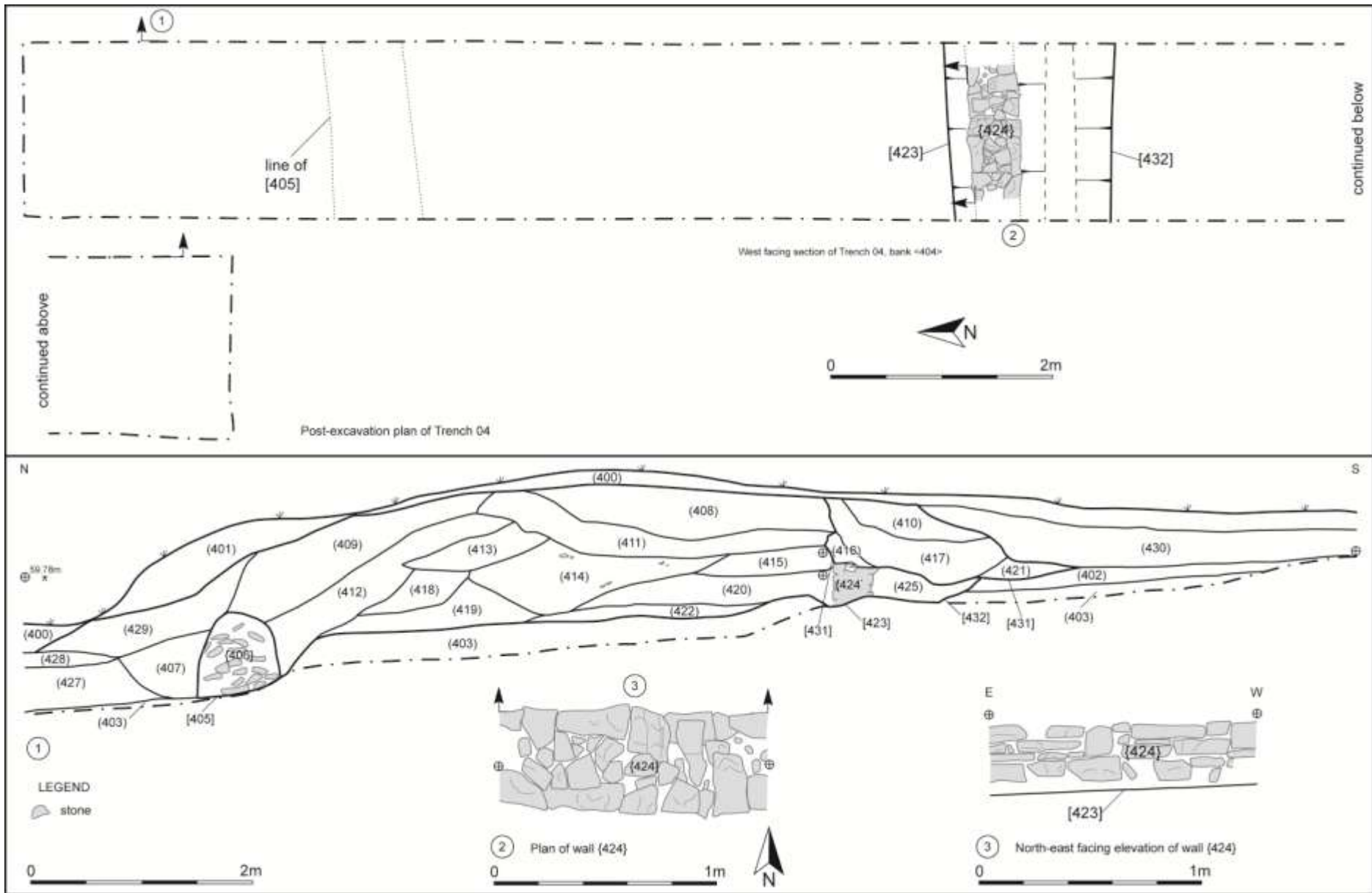


Figure 2: Trench 4 plan and section drawings.



Figure 3: Wall {424}; looking east (1m scale).



Figure 4: Detail of the west facing section of the central portion of bank <404>; looking east (2m scale).



### 1.2.2 Trench 5

Trench 5 was aligned north by south and measured 14.50m×1.60m; positioned to investigate an extant bank aligned east-west in the northern part of the site, west of Burrough House (Figure 1). The stratigraphy comprised: topsoil (500), grey-brown silt up to c.0.36m deep. This overlay subsoil (502), brown friable silt 0.10m thick; and the natural (503), banded red clay and blue-grey shillet. On the top of the bank the topsoil had been partially removed, though a layer of modern topsoil dump material (501), grey-brown clay-silt-loam c.0.48m thick had built up against the north face of the bank. Two features were identified in the trench, bank <504> and ditch [518]. A demolition deposit (515) was also identified.

Ditch [518], the earliest feature in the trench, was orientated north-east to south-west across the trench and measured 1.4m wide × 0.33m deep with moderate sloping sides and flat base (Figure 5,6). It contained two fills (519), brown soft clay; and (520) brown soft clay with common shillet inclusions.

Bank <504>, a continuation of bank <404> orientated east to west across the site measured c.9.5m wide × up to 1.30m high with moderate to steep sloping sides and a convex top (Figure 5,7). A similar pattern of construction was established to that of the bank in Trench 4, though the well-built southern wall had been completely robbed-out by robber cut [521], up to 0.48m wide × 0.40m deep with near vertical sides. This contained a single fill (514). To the north, cut [505], 1m wide × 0.6m deep with near vertical sides and flat base; and rubble wall {506} define the north face of the bank. The lower build layers of the bank comprise (509), (510), (511), (512), brown silt clays up to 0.5m thick. The second build phase, layer (508) comprises a series of layers of banded red-brown to blue-grey shillet within silt-clay up to 0.8m thick. As with Trench 4, there is a third phase of demolition or collapse, represented by layer (507), (513), loose brown silt-clay with shillet.

To the south of the wall, cut by the robber trench (514), was demolition deposit (515), brown silt-clay c.0.3m thick. This had built up against buried soil (517) and contained angular stone, slate and glazed roof tile, suggesting that it may have been associated with the demolition of a structure. Its location, to the immediate south of the putative remains of a robbed out wall could indicate that the wall was part of a wider structure, or at least that the wall was present for a demolition layer to be spread against it.

Land at Burrough House, Northam, Devon

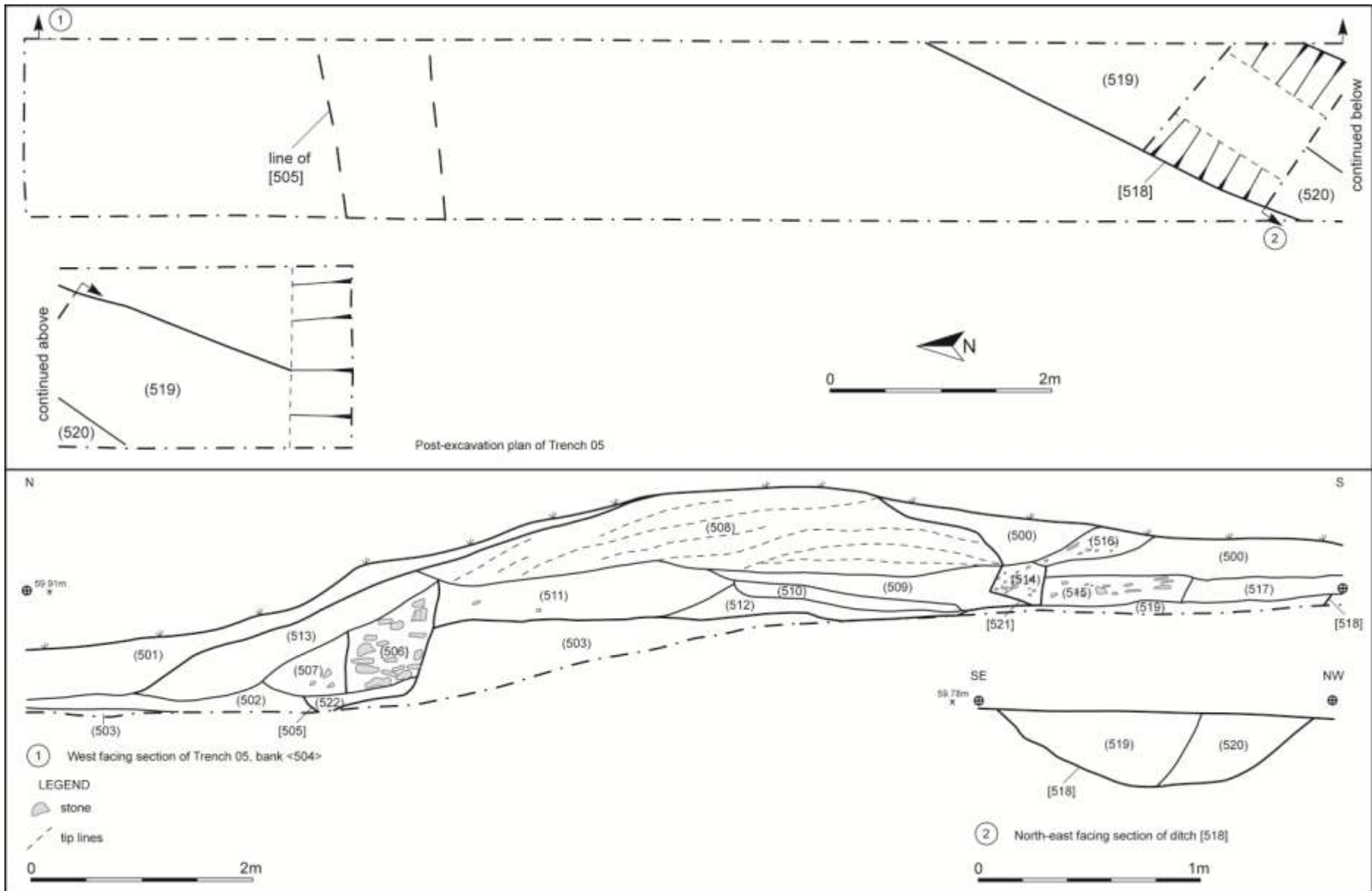


Figure 5: Trench 5 plan and section drawings.



Figure 6: Ditch [518]; looking south-west (1m scale).



Figure 7: Detail of the west facing section of the central portion of bank <504>; looking east (1m scale).

### 1.3 Finds

A relatively small collection of finds was recovered from the evaluation trenching, including from the topsoil and stratified finds from features, including: ceramic building material (3536g), clay pipe (3g), metalwork (76g) and pottery (222g).

Finds from the topsoil included a post-medieval iron knife with bone handle. Rubble wall {406} contained post-medieval bricks and tile; bank construction layer (511) contained a single sherd of 16<sup>th</sup> century North Devon Ware and similarly dated fragments of ridge tile. Demolition layer (515) contained a single sherd of a medieval North Devon Coarseware jug. The presence of late medieval/early post-medieval roof-tile in close proximity to the robbed-out remains of wall {424} indicates that this may represent the surviving element of a medieval structure, or the deposition of the demolition of such a structure against a newly built bank. The presence of a sherd of medieval pottery within the construction layers of the bank would also indicate that the original construction of the bank was likely during the medieval period, with later alterations. A complete Finds list can be seen below.



## 2.0 Discussion and Conclusion

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### 2.1 Discussion

The trenches were located to target the extant bank at the northern end of the site, either side of an earlier evaluation trench, in order to establish its form, function and dating. Both trenches revealed that bank <404>/<504> had been constructed on a naturally occurring slope, extenuating the existing topography and was likely to have been constructed in two phases. The first of these was an initial earth-built phase abutting or using an earlier stone wall {424} to the south, either a former structure or boundary wall, with a loose rubble build {406}/506 to the north. The second phase included the raising of the bank with the addition of a series of clay-shillet built layers, and possibly coinciding with the robbing of the earlier wall, resulting in its absence from Trench 5. A third phase, of possible levelling or collapse also appears to have occurred at a later date, probably related to the 19<sup>th</sup> century re-build of Burrough House. Finds recovered from the build of the bank indicate medieval origins to the construction. Finds recovered from a demolition layer apparently associated with the robbed out wall similarly suggest that a medieval structure existed prior to the construction of the bank, though whether associated with wall {424} is unclear. It is possible that this wall was originally part of the construction of the bank rather than an earlier feature; though given the apparent fine quality of the build this would appear unlikely.

Ditch [518] contained no dateable material, but given its similarity in character and fill to ditches identified during the earlier evaluation as possible medieval features and its apparent position partially beneath the bank, is likely to be similarly medieval in date. That no further trace of this feature was identified either during the geophysical survey or evaluation trenching is likely a result of the high levels of truncation across the site, suggested in the initial evaluation report, this portion of ditch only surviving due to it being protected by proximity to the bank.

The 16<sup>th</sup> century mansion of Burrough House was demolished in 1868 and rebuilt. The early post-medieval and post-medieval material from the northern layers and upper spread to the south of Bank <404>/<504> imply that the bank was remodelled during the rebuild and debris was sporadically discarded along the bank and within the garden and field to the south of the house. After the demolition of the wall on the south side of the bank the ground was built up while the north side of the bank, although probably widened at some point, sharply defining the boundary between the northern enclosure/garden and the field to the south.

### 2.2 Conclusion

The archaeological evaluation complemented the results of the earlier evaluation trenching and geophysical survey, clarifying the life-cycle of an extant medieval bank that was altered in the post-medieval period; probably the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The survival of a ditch in proximity to the bank is likely due to its protection by the bank whilst the remainder of the site suffered severe truncation by ploughing and, although the geophysics indicates no other probable features across the site apart from land drains (also identified in the evaluation) it is likely that any potential shallow archaeological features or remains would not have survived. The bank appears to have once been a prominent boundary that became incorporated into the field to its south, while its north face/slope remained to define the north field/garden part of Burrough House, which had been terraced and made level. The majority of the bank and north field will be in the rear gardens of proposed houses.

## Bibliography & References

### Unpublished Sources:

**Bampton, J. and Webb, P.** 2015: *Land at Burrough House, Northam, Devon: Results of an Archaeological Evaluation* SWARCH report number 151126

**Boyd, N.** 2016: *Burrough House, Northam, Torridge, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation*

## 3.0 Context Descriptions

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION		RELATIONSHIPS	DEPTH/THICKNESS	NOTES
(400)	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid grey-brown, friable silt.	Overlaid (430)	0.12m	20 <sup>th</sup> century
(401)	<i>Modern topsoil dump</i>	Dark grey-brown soft silt-loam.	Overlaid (400)	0.34m	Modern
(402)	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid brown friable silt.	Cut by [423]	0.13m	
(403)	<i>Natural</i>	Blue-grey shillet within mid-brown silt.	Overlain by (402)		
<404>	<i>Bank structure</i>	Group of bank material comprised of multiple layers; (409)-(415), (417)-(422), (425), (426). Measures c.9.5m wide x up to 1.60m high with moderate to steep sloping sides and convex top. Includes wall construction [405], [406] and incorporating earlier wall construction [423], [424]. Finds include medieval pottery.	Overlaid {424}; Overlain by (400)	Up to 1.60m	Medieval
[405]	<i>Terrace cut of bank</i>	Linear, aligned approx. east-west, c.1.4m wide x 0.35m deep with moderate sloping sides and flat base.	Cut (427); Contained {406}, (407)	0.35m	
{406}	<i>Rubble wall construction</i>	Loose rubble stone wall constructed of large angular stones within mid-brown soft-clay. No formal structure.	Fill of [405]; Overlain by (407), (412)	0.74m	
(407)	<i>Fill of Ditch/bank &amp; wall construction cut</i>	Mid-dark brown soft-friable silt. Final silting-up and/or back filling of redundant boundary ditch prior to demolition or collapse of the bank.	Fill of [405]; Overlaid {406}; Overlain by (429)	0.60m	Part of final phase and decommission of ditch/bank
(408)	<i>Top of bank construction</i>	Mid brown compacted silt.	Overlaid (410)(411); Overlain by (400)	0.46m	Part of second phase bank construction
(409)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Loose mid brown soft-friable silt-clay with very frequent shillet.	Overlaid (411); Overlain by (400)	Up to 0.62m	Part of second phase bank construction
(410)	<i>Fill of robber cut</i>	Dark brown soft-friable slightly clay-silt. Back fill of robber cut from bank demolition/alteration.	Fill of [431]; Overlaid (417); Overlain by (430)	0.30m	
(411)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Compacted yellow-brown silt and shillet. Re-deposited natural.	Overlaid (412); Overlain by (408)	Up to 0.34m	Part of second phase bank construction
(412)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Soft dark brown slightly silt-clay.	Overlaid (413); Overlain by (411)	0.40m	Part of first phase bank construction
(413)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Mid pinkish-brown friable silt with common shillet. Re-deposited natural.	Overlaid (418); Overlain by (412)	0.28m	Part of first phase bank construction
(414)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Soft mid-dark brown clay-silt.	Overlaid (415) (419); Overlain by (418)	0.70m	Part of first phase bank construction
(415)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Dark brown friable-soft silt-clay with common shillet.	Overlaid (420); Overlain by (411)	0.22m	Part of first phase bank construction
(416)	<i>Robber deposit</i>	Dark brown soft silt-clay. Initial backfill of collapse deposit in to robber cut, over wall	Fill of [431]; Overlain by (417)	0.30m	

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(417)	<i>Fill of robber cut</i>	Mid-dark brown soft-friable slightly clay-silt. Back fill of robber cut from bank demolition/alteration.	Fill of [431]; Overlaid (416), (421); Overlain by (410)	0.38m	
(418)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Compacted-soft mid brown silt-clay.	Overlaid (419); Overlain by (413)	0.32m	Part of first phase bank construction
(419)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Soft-friable mid-dark brown clay-silt.	Overlaid (422); Overlain by (414)	Up to 0.40m	Part of first phase bank construction
(420)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Dark brown soft-friable clay-silt with occasional charcoal.	Overlaid (422); Overlain by (415)	0.25m	Part of first phase bank construction
(421)	<i>Fill of robber cut</i>	Dark brown soft-friable clay-silt.	Fill of [431]; Overlain by (417)	0.18m	
(422)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Mid brown compacted soft-friable silt.	Overlaid (403); Overlain by (419) (420)	0.10m	Part of first phase bank construction
[423]	<i>Construction cut for wall</i>	Linear cut orientated approximately east to west. Measures 0.50m wide × 0.28m deep with moderate sloping sides and flat base.	Cuts (402); Filled by (420), {424}	0.28m	Part of first phase bank construction
{424}	<i>Wall construction</i>	Well built linear wall orientated east to west. Measures 0.6m wide × 0.4m high. Constructed from large angular stone with dark brown silt-clay bond. Well faced on both sides.	Overlaid (403); Abutted by (405) (426)	0.40m	Medieval?
(425)	<i>Fill of ditch</i>	Dark brown soft-friable clay-silt.	Fill of [432]; Overlaid by (417)	0.30m	Part of first phase bank construction
(426)	<i>VOID</i>	Mid-dark brown soft-friable slightly clay-silt. = (425)	Fill of [432]; Overlaid by (417)	0.30m	VOID
(427)	<i>Buried soil</i>	Mid brown soft-friable silt.	Overlaid (403); Overlain by (428)	0.35m	
(428)	<i>Bank collapse</i>	Angular shillet with mid-brown soft-friable silt.	Overlaid (427); Overlain by (429)	0.14m	Part of bank collapse/levelling
(429)	<i>Bank collapse</i>	Loose dark brown soft silt-clay with frequent angular stone.	Overlaid (428); Overlain by (400)	0.30m	Part of bank collapse/levelling
(430)	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid-dark brown friable slightly clay-silt.	Overlaid (410); Overlain by (400)	0.32m	Later subsoil covering bank construction
[431]	<i>Robber cut</i>	Linear cut orientated approximately east to west, measuring 0.45m wide x 0.50m deep with moderate sloping north side and near vertical south side and flat base.	Filled by (410), (416), (417), (421); Cuts (408), (425)	0.50m	Between two phases of bank construction
[432]	<i>Cut of ditch: contiguous with [423]</i>	Linear cut orientated approximately east to west, measuring 1.80m wide x 0.26m deep with shallow, undulating side and flat base.	Filled by (425); Cuts (402)	0.26m	Part of cut for wall and terrace for bank
(500)	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid-dark brown soft-friable clay-silt.	Overlaid (508) (517); Cut by (516)	0.36m	
(501)	<i>Modern topsoil dump</i>	Dark brown friable-soft silt-clay-loam.	Overlaid (513)	0.48m	



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(502)	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid brown soft-friable silt-clay.	Overlaid (503); Cut by [505]	0.10m	
(503)	<i>Natural</i>	Banded red-brown firm-clay, becoming shillet within silt-clay.	Overlain by (502)		
<504>	<i>Bank structure</i>	Group of bank material comprised of multiple layers; (507)-(512). Aligned east to west, measuring c.9.5m wide x up to 1.30m high with moderate to steep sloping sides and convex top. Includes wall construction [505], {506} and truncated by the removal of a possible wall represented by fill (514).	Overlaid (502); Overlain by (500)	Up to 1.30m	
[505]	<i>Terrace cut for bank</i>	Linear cut orientated east-west. Measures c.1m wide x 0.60m deep with steep sides and flat base.	Filled by (522); Cuts (502); Contained {506}	0.60m	
{506}	<i>Rubble wall construction</i>	Loose rubble stone wall constructed of large angular stones within mid-brown soft-clay. No formal structure.	Fill of [505]; Abutted by (507)	0.60m	
(507)	<i>Bank collapse</i>	Dark brown friable silt with common angular stone.	Abutted {506}; Overlain by (513)	0.50m	Part of bank collapse/levelling
(508)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Banded layers of re-deposited natural. Mix of red clay/blue-grey, red, and brown shillet in silt-clay.	Overlaid (509); Overlain by (500)	Up to 0.75m	Part of second phase bank construction
(509)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Mid-dark brown friable-soft silt-clay.	Overlaid (510); Overlain by (508); Cut by (514)	0.10m	Part of first phase bank construction
(510)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Soft yellow-brown clay.	Overlaid (512); Overlain by (509)	0.10m	Part of first phase bank construction
(511)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Mid-dark brown soft silt-clay.	Overlaid (512); Overlain by (509)	0.50m	Part of first phase bank construction
(512)	<i>Bank construction</i>	Dark brown soft-friable clay-silt with occasional sub-angular stone.	Overlaid (503); Overlain by (510)	Up to 0.28m	Part of first phase bank construction
(513)	<i>Bank collapse</i>	Mid brown soft-friable silt-clay with occasional shillet.	Overlaid (507); Overlain by (508)	Up to 0.45m	Part of bank collapse/levelling
(514)	<i>Robber deposit</i>	Dark brown soft silt-clay with frequent shillet inclusions.	Overlaid (509); Overlain by (516)	Up to 0.38m	Robber deposit from wall removal
(515)	<i>Demolition layer</i>	Mid-dark brown soft-friable silt-clay with common angular stone and slate inclusions. Finds include medieval roof tile.	Overlaid (517); Overlain by (514)	0.30m	
(516)	<i>Root / animal disturbance</i>	Dark brown friable-soft silt-clay with common shillet inclusions.	Cuts (500)	Up to 0.26m	
(517)	<i>Buried soil</i>	Mid-dark brown soft-friable clay-silt.	Overlaid (502); Overlain by (515)	0.23m	
[518]	<i>Ditch cut</i>	Linear ditch orientated north-east to south-west. Measures 1.40m wide x 0.33m deep with moderate sloping sides and flat base.	Cuts (502); Filled by (519) (520)	0.33m	
(519)	<i>Fill of [518]</i>	Upper fill of ditch [518]. Mid brown soft clay.	Fill of [518]; Overlaid (520); Overlain by (515)	0.33m	
(520)	<i>Fill of [518]</i>	Lower fill of ditch [518]. Mid brown soft clay with common shillet inclusions.	Fill of [518]; Overlain by (519)	0.33m	
[521]	<i>Robber trench cut</i>	Linear cut orientated east to west. Measures 0.48m wide x 0.40m deep with near vertical sides and sloping (down to south) base.	Filled by [514]; Cuts (515)	0.40m	Robber trench cut prior to second phase bank.

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(522)	<i>Fill of wall construction cut</i>	Mid-dark red-brown silt-clay.	Overlain by {506}; Fills [505]	0.14m	Fill of wall construction cut
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## 4.0 Concordance of Finds

Context	Notes	POTTERY			OTHER			DATE
		Sherds	Wgt. (g)	Notes	Frgs.	Wgt. (g)	Notes	
Topsoil					1	76	Broken Fe knife blade with shaped bone handle	
T2 (05)					1	398	Half brick 140mm+ x100x62mm; exceedingly coarse fabric, poorly-sorted inclusions up to 15mm across, including some that appear to be industrial residues	
(406)		1	30	WRE fabric white salt-glazed tile	3	2940	Half bricks, the largest being 110mm+ x115x52mm; fairly even orange-red colour, few inclusions	
(407)		4	158	North Devon gravel free chamber pot C16				
(429)					1	3	Clay pipe stem, pre C19	
(511)		1	11	North Devon calcareous flagon C16	5	198	North Devon gravel tempered ridge tile; x1 crest with external light green glaze and low crests with stabbing	
(515)		1	23	North Devon medieval coarseware, jug basal angle				

## 5.0 Supporting Photographs

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Pre-excitation view of bank <404>/<504>; looking south.



Pre-excitation view along bank <404>/<504>; looking west.





Pre-excitation view of bank <404>/<504>; looking north-west.



Trench 4 post-excitation; looking south (1m & 2m scales).



Trench 4, post-excavation; looking north (1m & 2m scales).



Wall {424}; looking south (1m scale).





Wall {424}; looking east (1m scale).



North facing elevation of wall {424}; looking south (1m scale).



West facing section of Trench 4, oblique showing profile of bank <404>; looking south-east (2m scale).



Detail of west facing section of Trench 4, north end of bank <404> showing rubble wall {406}; looking west (1m scale).





Detail of west facing section of Trench 4, middle of bank <404>; looking east (2m scale).



Detail of west facing section of Trench 4, mid showing association of bank <404> with wall {424}; looking east (1m scale).





Detail of west facing section of Trench 4, bank <404> south end; looking east (1m scale).



West facing section of Trench 4, oblique showing profile of bank <404>; looking north-east (1m&2m scales).





Trench 5, post excavation; looking south (1m&2m scales).



Trench 5, post excavation; looking north (1m&2m scales).





West facing section of Trench 5, oblique showing profile of bank <504>; looking south-east (1m scale).



Detail of west facing section of Trench 5, showing profile of bank <504>; looking east (1m scale).





West facing section of Trench 5, oblique showing profile of bank <504>; looking north-east (1m scale).



Ditch [518], post-excitation; looking south-west (1m scale).



North-east facing section of ditch [518]; looking south-west (1m scale).



The Old Dairy  
Hacche Lane Business Park  
Pathfields Business Park  
South Molton  
Devon  
EX36 3LH

Tel: 01769 573555  
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